

PATENT APPLICATION
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application

Confirmation No. 7458

Inventor(s) Auer et al

Group: 1632

Application No. 10/591,045, filed Aug. 29, 2006
(Case Docket No. 22388)

Examiner: M. Allen

For: **METHOD FOR THE RECOMBINANT EXPRESSION OF AN N-TERMINAL
FRAGMENT OF HEPATOCYTE GROWTH FACTOR**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT WITH RCE
AND EXTENSION OF TIME**

Nutley, New Jersey 07110
September 8, 2009

Mail Stop: Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment and RCE are in response to the Advisory Action mailed July 15, 2009, and the Final Office Action of April 10, 2009, in connection with the above-identified application. Applicants respectfully request a two (2) month extension of time. With the extension of time, this Amendment is timely filed. Entry of this Amendment is earnestly requested to place this case into condition for allowance or appeal.

Claims 1-6 stand pending. Please amend claims 1, 3 and 5 as reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 2 of this paper.

Accordingly, please amend the above-identified application as follows: